

S. M. STEVENS TAKES THE WITNESS STAND

Testimony in Arson Case Not All Given.

WILL CONTINUE TODAY

Many Fine Legal Points Are Involved.

The second day of the S. M. Stevens case closed yesterday at 4:30 with the defendant on the witness stand and under cross-examination.

Two witnesses were introduced by the defense to show that the back door of the Stevens store was in bad condition, and could have been opened from the outside.

For a time it looked as though the jury would be sent down to examine the door, but the motion of the county attorney to that effect was afterward withdrawn.

At the close of court in the afternoon the attorneys were indulging in warm argument over a question put to the defendant concerning a fire in 1888. The point will be decided this morning at 8 o'clock, before the commencement of the case.

Mrs. Stevens was put on the stand yesterday, and for over two hours was subjected to direct and a rigid cross-examination. Baby Stevens was also in court, and behaved admirably, although seemingly demanding much attention from the different members of the family.

Mr. Stevens' father and Mrs. Stevens' father were also put on the witness stand during the afternoon, and testified as to what time Mr. and Mrs. Stevens visited them on January 1, 1890.

The first witness called by the defense was Paul Brown. Mr. Brown is also one of the attorneys for the defense. He said:

"I have been an attorney for the past seven years. I was acquainted with Mrs. Stevens while she was in business. I went to Stevens' and looked over the store and went into the back room and looked at the back door with reference to its fastenings. It was very poorly fastened. When I would shake the door it would rattle and was so loose that you could put your fingers through a crack near the jamb. I asked to have some one there to examine it to use as a witness. I got Mr. Rogers to come down and examine the door. I assisted George Rogers in the examination of the door."

"What was the result?"

Objected to and objection sustained.

"What was done by you and Mr. Rogers?"

"We went outside and closed the door. I boosted Rogers to the top of the door. He caught the top of the door and pushed his arm through the crack, and by the use of a wire he could easily open the door. The staple could be put back the same way."

Cross examined by Eckstein.

"Did you try to fasten the door again?"

"No, sir."

"Where was the hole?"

"At the top of the door."

"You could not get your hand through any other place except the hole at the top?"

"No, sir."

"Did you see the staple from the outside?"

"No, sir."

"Who was inside?"

"No one that I know of."

"Was Mrs. Stevens there?"

"Yes, sir, but I do not know whether he was inside or out."

"How long did it take Mr. Rogers to reach down with the wire and lift out the iron bolt?"

"I don't remember."

"To lift up the iron from the staple he reached through with a wire?"

"Yes, sir."

"Could he see the staple?"

"I don't know."

"He could not get his head inside, could he?"

"No, sir, he did not."

"What time in the day did you try this?"

"Day time."

"There would be some difference in doing this in day and night?"

"Yes, I suppose there would be."

Mrs. Stevens was called next.

"You are the wife of S. M. Stevens, the defendant?"

"Yes, sir."

"What did you engage in the millinery business?"

"When I was 17 years old."

"What were your average sales during December and January, of 1892 and 1893?"

"About \$20 or \$22 a day."

"How much of this was profit?"

"About half."

"Out of this you had lights, fuel, rent, wages, etc., to pay, didn't you?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then, you advertised, didn't you?"

"No, sir; I did no advertising."

"Where did you keep the key to the store?"

"In my pocketbook, which I kept always with me."

"Did Mr. Stevens ever have the key?"

"No, sir; not to my knowledge."

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR

ROYAL
BAKING
POWDER
Absolutely Pure

IT IS A MATTER OF HEALTH

"Miss Alsbaugh and Miss Hereford both worked for me in January, 1893."

"Who had the keys?"

"Miss Alsbaugh had one and I had the other."

"On the 24th of December Mr. Stevens and I went down to Norman, O. T., on a visit and we did not return until the day before New Year's. I did not go to the store at once for I had a large bunch of mittens which I took to the house before I went down to the store."

"When did Mr. Stevens next go to the store?"

"When he called for me that day to take me home. It was about 12:30, January 1. He asked me how soon I would be ready to go home. We started in a very few minutes afterward."

"What did the girls say?"

"They made arrangements to meet at the store."

"What did the girls say in Mr. Stevens' presence afterward?"

"Della called Bertha back and told her to meet her at the store at 7 o'clock."

"When had you asked the girls to go with you to the theater?"

"The girls gave Mr. Stevens a waste paper basket for Christmas and he said that he would like to take them to the theater. As we went down to Norman on a visit he did not get a chance until we returned. He told the girls before we left that we would all go on New Year's day."

"How did you happen to fix the window curtains?"

"The awning was broken and we decided to fix the curtain. Miss Alsbaugh fixed the curtain. She said nothing to me until it was finished."

"Why were the chairs and lounge taken to the house?"

"They were things I had when I broke up housekeeping and I kept them at the store until we moved on South Hydraulic. There was no insurance on the mirror and chairs. About the velvet: I always panned my own velvets and that is how I happened to have the velvets at my house. I always panned my velvets, had done so since I had been in business. It was a very ordinary occurrence for me to take home velvets to merror or panne."

"What was the cost of the velvets you had out on January 1?"

"About \$50."

"After you closed the store where did you go?"

"We went home. We had dinner and then went to Mr. Stevens' home on North Main street. This would be about 2 o'clock. We remained there until about half past three. We then went to my mother's. I should judge we got there about 4 o'clock and remained about an hour. My brother was to go with us and we waited for him. When he got into the buggy the front spring broke and Mr. Stevens said that Will could take me home and he would come afterward. We drove to the Palace barn and asked some one to come and get the buggy. We then drove home. Mr. Smith and a boy then came after the horse. I think this was about half past 5 o'clock. Mr. Stevens said to have the horse taken back to the barn and he would come down to the barn and get it."

"Did Mr. Stevens ever have your key?"

"No, sir; he did not."

"What time did Mr. Stevens get home?"

"About fifteen minutes of 7 o'clock. He and my brother came together. We had lunch and started to the theater when a neighbor called Mr. Stevens to the telephone. We then went down to the store, where the girls were. A policeman was with them when we went in."

"How long were you there, and what did you do?"

"Mr. Stevens went with the policeman to the station about finding the lamp, and the rest of us went to the theater."

"Was there an invoice taken in December?"

"Yes, sir."

"What did the invoice value show?"

"About \$500."

"What kind of stock goes out of date if held over for a season?"

"The novelties are the only things that go out of date. And the milliners buy very lightly of these extreme novelties."

Cross examined by Eckstein.

"Did Will Heath go to school at this time?"

"No, sir. He was studying music with Prof. Sanford and he was going to take a lesson the next morning."

"So he went back to North Washington to get his book?"

"Yes, sir."

"You say this stock belonged to you. When did you buy it?"

"In 1892. I bought it from Miss McPartlin."

"Was the stock as good January 1 as when you bought it?"

"Yes, sir, and better."

"What did the stock that Miss McPartlin sold you consist of?"

"Velvets, ribbons, chiffons, feathers, etc."

"How long had Miss McPartlin been in business?"

"I don't know."

"Where did you get the money to buy the stock?"

"From Mr. Stevens."

"Where did he get it? Was it insurance money?"

"What did you pay for the stock?"

"Nine hundred dollars."

"Did you ever take any other invoice?"

"Yes, sir; in the summer."

"You involved with a cost mark on what they were worth when you first got them?"

"No, sir."

"You had some sailor hats left, didn't you?"

"Yes, sir; but I would have kept them until they came back in style before I would have sold them at a loss."

"What were your average sales during December and January, of 1892 and 1893?"

"About \$20 or \$22 a day."

"How much of this was profit?"

"About half."

"Out of this you had lights, fuel, rent, wages, etc., to pay, didn't you?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then, you advertised, didn't you?"

"No, sir; I did no advertising."

"Where did you keep the key to the store?"

"In my pocketbook, which I kept always with me."

"Did Mr. Stevens ever have the key?"

"No, sir; not to my knowledge."

"Was the electric light put out at night when you left the store?"

"Yes, sir; we usually put it out when we left."

"Had the door ever been touched from January 1st until when you sold out?"

"No, sir; it had not been changed."

"Was Mr. Stevens there when you sold out?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did you ever see this bill of sale?"

"I know nothing of it."

"Did you execute a bill of sale for the stock about January 15, 1893, to Miss Hoath and Miss Hannibal?"

"I did."

"What did you do with it?"

"I had it there for Miss Hoath and Miss Hannibal."

"Is this the bill of sale?" (Holding up one for \$2500.)

"Yes, sir."

"Then, you did not see this other one?"

"No, sir; that was made before the store was sold."

"What did you get for the store?"

"Twenty-five hundred dollars. \$500 cash, a personal note against Miss Hannibal for \$250, a personal note against Miss Hoath and a note for \$1500 against the firm."

"Where are those notes?"

"I haven't them. I gave them to Mr. Stevens."

"Who signed those notes?"

"Miss Hoath, at the request of Miss Hannibal, and in her presence."

"How much money did you get from your sister?"

"Two hundred and fifty dollars."

"Were either of the notes paid?"

"Yes, sir; Miss Hoath's was paid."

"When did she pay it?"

"The last of April."

"Cash or by check?"

"Cash."

"Where is the \$1500 note?"

"I do not know."

"You never saw this bill of sale for \$1500?"

"No, sir."

"What time did you reach the Palace barn?"

"I should judge about half past five."

"Was it dark?"

"Yes, sir; getting dark."

"Was your brother there when the boy came after the buggy?"

"He was just going in the house."

"What time was it when your brother left?"

"About 5:30 o'clock."

"When did he return?"

"Before 7 o'clock."

"You are sure it was before 7?"

"Yes, sir."

"The velvets you had were worth \$307?"

"Yes, sir."

"How many yards did you have at the house at that time?"

"Perhaps thirty yards."

"How long did it take you to panne five yards?"

"Probably an hour or an hour and a half."

"It was all returned after January 1st?"

"Yes, sir."

"When was it returned?"

"I don't remember the date."

"What proportion of the stock of velvet did you have?"

"A little over a third."

"What is the most costly part of stock?"

"Velvet feathers."

"What next?"

"Fancy feathers."

"Next?"

"Purse and velvets."

"What did you have in the store rooms?"

"Summer goods: grasses, flowers, etc."

"Re-direct, by Adams."

"What was the value of the stock when you bought it?"

"It was a good stock, in first-class condition. I had a traveling millinery salesman look over the stock before I purchased it."

"What was the stock worth when you bought it?"

"About \$2000."

"How long did you have it?"

"A year."

"How much did you buy during the year?"

"Probably \$500."

"What seasons are most profitable?"

"Spring and fall seasons."

"Is it customary to let the bills go over and pay from spring profits?"

"Yes, sir; always."

"Mr. Eckstein asked you regarding a bill of sale. Was the one for \$2500 signed by you?"

"Yes, sir."

"What were the reasons for your selling?"

"The arrest of Mr. Stevens ruined the business, and I sold it."

"What did you consider the value of your stock?"

"My stock was really worth what it involved."

"Is this your invoice book, taken in December?"

Continued on Eleventh Page.

NEWS FROM ALL THE RAILROADS

Cheap Rates Are Made for Nordica Concert

SPECIAL TRAIN TO BE RUN

Items of Interest About Different Employes.

Advice was received at the local passenger offices of the Santa Fe yesterday that special rates and extra train service will be granted south of Wichita during the night of the Nordica concert in Wichita February 2nd.

A special train will be operated about one half hour after the concert to Arkansas City, and Winfield by way of Wellington. For parties of twenty-five from either of the three towns the road will grant a one and one-third fare for the round trip. Where there are parties of fifty or more a one fare for the round trip will be made.

"The prospects are good for a better crowd from out of town than there was at the first concert by Nordica," said O. A. Boyle, last evening. "There will be a delegation here from as far south as the Chilocco Indian school. All the surrounding towns in Kansas will be represented by parties of twenty-five and fifty people."

RAILROAD WILL BALLAST.

Santa Fe to Improve Its Roadbed in Kansas.

The Santa Fe has decided to ballast the entire Southern Kansas division the coming spring and is installing a few miles west of Pottawatomie one of the largest stone crushers in the west. A large force of men and thirty teams are at work constructing yards at the crusher.

This division of the Santa Fe has been long in need of improvement. The track has been in such condition that it was impossible to make anything like fast time. The purpose of this improvement is more far-reaching than to improve the conditions for local traffic. The Santa Fe will, when this work is completed, send its through trains to California over this route. From North Ottawa their trains will run south through Jola and Chanute to the end of this division, and then over the Panhandle in Texas. It will be possible in this way to decrease greatly the time necessary to make the run. This route is shorter and more free from grades.

BLECKLEY TALKS OIL.

Traveling Passenger Agent Is Back from Eastern Kansas.

E. E. Bleckley, of the Missouri Pacific, returned yesterday from a business trip through the eastern part of Kansas. Mr. Bleckley did not fail, however, to note the wonderful growth of the various towns through the oil fields.

He says he was more than surprised at the unusual stir and excitement there is prevalent among the people.

"Eastern capitalists," added Mr. Bleckley, "are coming into this country by scores. The towns are building up very rapidly and have assumed the air of cities. Business is lively and every-

GLOOM.

Women Find Happiness and Health by Using Dr. Greene's Nervura.

Thousands of Women Praise the Virtues of Dr. Greene's Nervura.

Are these horrible aches and pains natural? Am I doomed to lose my health and good looks through suffering I can't prevent? Shall I be nervous and cross at twenty-five, thin and sickly at thirty, and full of wrinkles in my prime?

Are you asking these questions of yourself, young woman?

Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy will preserve your beauty and keep back the marks of time. It will help you at once.

Mrs. M. A. CLARK, formerly of Buffalo, N. Y., who now lives at Crawford, Okla., says: "For years I was miserable, and no one could imagine what hours I spent in pain. I felt so sad and down-hearted all the time, and sometimes felt as if I would be glad if I could die, for it was misery to live and feel as I did. I thought sometimes I should lose my mind. I had the headache and could not sleep at times. I tried many medicines but they did me no good. At last I decided to try Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy, and after taking two bottles I could sleep well, and my mind did not trouble me any more. I am now able to do all my own housework, which I have not done for two years before. I can very truly say for what Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy has done for me, and I gladly recommend it to all who suffer as I have suffered."

The pity